(d) to (0 At present there is no natural gas or pipeline infrastructure available for setting up CNG stations in Chhattisgarh. CNG will be progressively introduced in polluted cities, including these in Chhattisgarh, with the expansion of the pipeline infrastructure and the increased availability of natural gas, and also subject to economic viability.

Tax on Petroleum Products

f179. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of taxation on petroleum products in the country is more than that of other South Asian Countries;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the names of the South Asian countries where tax rate on petrol and diesel is lower than in India?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The tax component in the price of petrol and diesel in India is higher than some other South Asian countries. The details are as under:—

	Petrol (%of tax to total price)	Diesel (%of tax to total price)
India	57	35
Sri Lanka	37	20
Thailand	24	15

Oil Prices in International Market

t180. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had increased the consumer

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.